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also in discussing the legislative functions of the House of Lords, the author presents the long accepted view which deprives the Lords of all power to arrest legislation in a final issue with a ministry that possesses the support of the Commons; and yet in the light of the memorable defeat of the second Home Rule Bill of Mr. Gladstone, the question may be fairly raised: does the accepted theory of the legislative nonentity of the Lords express fully the fact? Are there not conditions under which the rejection of a measure by the Lords is a finality, although at the time the measure possesses the support of the Commons. It is significant that before the determined front of the Lords in 1893 even Mr. Gladstone flinched, although in the Newcastle Programme he had pledged himself "to mend or end" the House of Lords.

The American student will regret that the author has not seen fit to give fuller treatment to the material grouped under Part II. In Part I. he traverses a well-beaten track, familiar to all students of English history. But in discussing the working of the British judicial system and the development of local government in recent times, the author enters the mysterious shadows of a land, to the average American student, virtually unknown. The value of the book would also be increased for an American reader were it accompanied by a glossary in which such technical terms as are not to be found in an ordinary dictionary might be explained. All in all, the style is not as lucid as one has a right to expect in a book of this character; the composition is frequently careless and sometimes the result is startling. Note this remarkable statement on page 246, "the city is divided into twenty-six wards, the rate payers of which annually elect common councilmen in varying numbers having some rough relation to their size." BENJAMIN TERRY.

Dictionary of National Biography. Edited by SIDNEY LEE. Supplement, in three volumes. Vol. I., Abbott-Childers, Vol. II., Chippendale-Hoste, Vol. III., How-Woodward. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Smith, Elder and Co. 1901. Pp. lii, 430; vi, 452; vi, 522.)

THE *Dictionary of National Biography* has now reached definite completion. It was begun as long ago as 1882 and the quarterly volumes have since appeared with clock-like regularity. Between the beginning at "A" and the ending at "W" many persons died who were entitled to a place in the *Dictionary*. Some names also were omitted from the earlier volumes. The present supplement covers these omissions and completes the *Dictionary* to the end of the reign of Victoria. There has indeed been a rare dramatic finish to the great work. The Queen died when the supplementary volumes were under way and the close of her reign then became a fitting date to mark the end of the work. It is therefore complete to January 22, 1901. Mr. George Smith, the publisher, who brought it out at enormous financial loss, died April 6, 1901, having lived to see it practically finished. In one sense, however, the

Dictionary is always unfinished. Within the British Empire about seventy-five persons die annually whose reputation entitles them to this national commemoration. At this rate every fourth or fifth year material accumulates for a supplementary volume.

The *Dictionary* is a noble national monument. Its first editor, Mr. Leslie Stephen, and his successor, Mr. Sidney Lee, have both shown extraordinary capacity for their difficult task and their work is as near perfection as anything human is likely to be. Some complaints have been made that the system of cross-references is inadequate and a good many minor errors of fact, especially in the lives of colonial personages, have been pointed out. There were complaints, too, of omissions; but the present supplementary volumes correct all of these that in the editor's judgment deserve consideration. The work is sometimes wanting in a sense of proportion. It is doubtful, for instance, if Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ruskin, Lord Russell of Killowen, or even Queen Victoria, will retain for future ages the importance, relative to others, assigned to them here.

There are some unexpected names. Dr. McCosh, the famous President of Princeton, figured so prominently in the life of the United States that we hardly expect to find him, as a Scot, included among British biographies. Antonio Carlo Napoleone Gallenga is not precisely English in form. He was an exiled Piedmontese patriot who became a correspondent for London newspapers and died in England. Perhaps the most striking thing in the supplementary volumes is the very large number of names of persons who made their fame in Canada, Australia, or South Africa. This is a noteworthy phase of present day imperialism. The share allowed to such lives is generous and there has obviously been a desire to do full justice to "Greater Britain."

We turn naturally to examine the lives of the historians. Freeman and Froude stand almost side by side. Perhaps, since death, the reputation of Freeman has declined more than has that of Froude. In life Froude's weaknesses were emphasized by persistent attack, while Freeman succeeded in inspiring the critics with something like terror of his powers. A *Quarterly* reviewer, later revealed as Mr. Round, soon after Freeman's death, attacked his accuracy in regard to the battle of Hastings. Since then, others have raised their voices and few now do him the old unqualified reverence. Mr. Hunt, Freeman's friend and fellow-laborer, claims here that Freeman "raised the study of history in England to a higher level than that on which he found it, chiefly by inculcating the importance of a critical use of original authorities, of accuracy of statement, and of the recognition of the unity of history." This may be true, but it does not cover a complete outfit for the historian. Freeman was bitterly prejudiced, and, as his treatment of Froude showed, he could not be fair when the personal equation was involved; he accused Froude, a Fellow of Exeter and a good Latin scholar, of translating *praedictae rationes* as "the aforesaid rations"! He wrote also, always from the point of view of complacent patriotism, and the present generation finds it hard to forgive him for his neglect of social life and

manners. Other historians of lesser note, H. D. Traill, Sir George Stokes, Professor Lumby, Wm. Kingsford, appear in these volumes. Two more writers, qualified to stand in the first rank—Stubbs and Creighton—have passed away since the volumes were prepared for the press. The special advantage, which the memoirs in the supplementary volumes have, is that they are contributed by contemporaries and in most cases by those having personal knowledge of the subjects.

In putting the work upon our shelves we ask whether the United States is likely soon to have such a dictionary. It is very doubtful. Reputations are more fixed, precise, and generally recognized, in an old country like Britain than they can be in the republic. Every state of the Union has its own standard of importance. New York's estimate is not Nevada's and only an omniscient editor could fix a scale that would gain general recognition.

GEORGE M. WRONG.

Seventeenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1895-1896. By J. W. POWELL. Part I. (Washington: Government Printing Office. 1898. Pp. cxiii, 468 + 129-344.)

Eighteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1896-1897. By J. W. POWELL. Part I. (Washington: Government Printing Office. 1899. Pp. lvii, 518.)

THE Report of the Bureau of Ethnology for the fiscal year 1895-1896 is published in two volumes. There are two memoirs in each volume; the first deals with the Seri of northwestern Mexico, a people hitherto little known and remarkably interesting to the student of primitive culture; the second gives an account of the Kiowa, a small plains tribe that has maintained its autonomy in the midst of a multitude of migratory and warring tribes. The second volume deals with peoples of the southwestern plateau, the Navahos and the Hopi.

These papers cover a wide range of cultural development. The Seri are in perhaps the lowest phase of American culture; the Kiowa represent the large group of hunters so materially modified by the acquirement of the horse; the Navaho are rapidly advancing toward a sedentary life; and the ancient Hopi have already developed the art of agriculture and stand highest among the aborigines within the present territory of the United States. The papers are based upon extended studies in the field as well as upon the examination of the literature of each group: the first three treat of ethnologic and historic subjects for the most part, while the fourth describes an archæologic investigation with special reference to esthetic concepts.

The Report not only maintains but advances the high standard of excellence of the series. The illustrations are numerous and well selected, those accompanying Dr. Fewkes's paper being especially noteworthy. The introduction contains a list of the publications of the